(b) to (d) The Committee of Secretaries have taken note of the proposals for restructuring of Air India. Government will arrive at a decision upon those proposals.

(e) Erstwhile Air India is incurring losses since 2004-05. NACIL has taken several initiatives to turnaround the performance of the company focussing on Cost Reduction and Revenue Enhancement.

(f) No financial assistance has been given to Air India by the Government.

Air services in Kerala

1226. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for changing for the operation of existing Indian Airlines flights to Air India flights from Calicut International Airport to various Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount of luggage the passengers are being permitted to carry in Air India flights and in Indian Airlines flights during the Gulf journey;

(d) whether there is any facility for cancellation and refund of the ticket fare in Air India Express; and

(e) whether there would be any change in the present practice of the Indian Airlines ferrying bodies of persons who die in the Gulf countries free of cost of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to improve profitability and offer a service/fare level that best suits the market requirements, the IC coded services and those of AI Express on Calicut-Gulf routes have been restructured.

(c) The baggage Permitted to carry on NACIL flights during the Gulf journey is 20 kg. (Economy class) and 30 kg. (Business class) when tickets are issued in India. When tickets issued in Gulf, the baggage permitted is 40 kg. (Economy class) and 50 kg. (Business class) for Gulf-Calicut and 20 kg. (Economy class) and 30 kg. (Business class) for Calicut-Gulf.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

Plane crashes in the country

1227. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many senior leaders of the country have died in the plane crash;

(b) if so, the number of plane crashes in the country during the last three years; and

(c) the steps Government is taking to provide good aircrafts as well as their proper maintenance?